

#12C/BM  
48-03

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP 1731  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q59812

Pierre REBREYEND, et al.

Appl. No.: 09/605,882

Group Art Unit: 1731

Confirmation No.: 7302

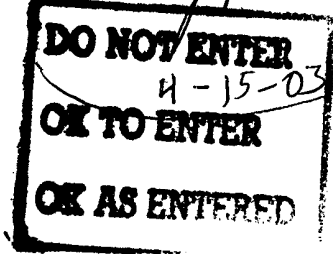
Examiner: John M. HOFFMAN

Filed: June 29, 2000

For: PLASMA TORCH, METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM  
AND PREFORM FABRICATION SYSTEM USING THE METHOD

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

ATTN: BOX AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please cancel claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.**

**Please amend the remaining claims to read as follows:**

8. (Amended) A plasma torch for locally heating a target, said torch including means for

injecting a gas substantially free of silica particles between the plasma torch and said target in the

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area of said target to be heated so as to reduce the power of said plasma in said area.  
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GROUP 1700